

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the abstract to read as follows:

--A socket (14) includes a first bus conductor (22a) having two or more contact regions (24) in a second bus conductor (22b) arranged substantially parallel to the first bus conductor and having two or more contact regions (24). The first and second bus conductors are spaced relative to one another so as to provide a predetermined electrical impedance and may be arranged to carry electrical signals as transmission lines. A dielectric spacer (36) may be disposed between the first and second bus conductors to provide the spacing. Contact regions (24) of the first and second conductors (22a, 22b) may provide compliant coupling regions for the socket (14). The contact regions (24) of the first bus conductor (22a) may be positioned within the socket (14) so as to contact a lead disposed on a first side of a circuit element (16) and the contact regions (24) of the second bus conductor (22b) may be positioned within the socket (14) so as to contact the lead disposed on the second side of the circuit element (16).--

A replacement abstract on a separate sheet is provided herewith.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1, 3, 7, 8, 10-14, 19, 21, ~~24-30~~, 34 and 35, without prejudice.

Please add new claim 36 as follows:

- 1 ~~36~~. (New) An electrical connector comprising a plurality of bus conductors each
2 running through the length of the connector yet being electrically isolated from one another
3 and each having a number of compliant contact regions disposed at various positions along
4 their respective lengths so as to provide electrical coupling points for like contact regions of
5 electrical devices to be received within the connector, the bus conductors being divided into
6 first and second groups such that across the width of the connector a bus conductor of the